ACTION PLAN 2019

We’re in for another nail-biter of a year—your activism and support will help us stand firm! Together, you and LAWG will:

Organize & Mobilize New, Diverse Congress
- Meet and educate the historically diverse members of the new U.S. Congress on Latin American human rights and immigration issues.
- Encourage grassroots allies to develop relationships with promising new members.
- Develop new allies and leaders on our issues in the new Congress so we can advance our agenda for just policies in the Americas.

Protect the Rights of Migrants & Refugees
- Pass permanent protections for the Dreamer and Temporary Protected Status (TPS) members of our communities in the new Congress.
- Oppose restrictions to access asylum, indefinite detention for families, and increased border militarization, which harms border communities, migrants at our border, and migrants in Mexico and Central America.
- Document the harmful impacts of restrictive immigration and border militarization policies on migrants in Mexico and the Northern Triangle countries of Central America.
- Educate policymakers and the public on rights-based solutions to address the roots of forced migration with updated U.S. aid & policy recommendations towards the Northern Triangle of Central America.
- Inform policymakers, activists, scholars, immigration lawyers, educators, and activists about the drivers of and solutions to forced migration from Central America with infographics and factsheets, mobilizing them to develop welcoming and sanctuary policies.

Promote Peace, Encourage Dialogue
- Organize & educate members of Congress to support, fund, and press the Colombian government to fully implement the historic peace accords to end a war that has cost 260,000 lives and keep “the victims at the center.”
- Push for an improved U.S. policy towards Cuba—through social media outreach like LAWG’s @EndtheEmbargo Facebook page, Twitter, and email network, advocacy towards Congress and the administration, and creative educational activities.
- Advocate for re-staffing the U.S. consulate in Havana so our faith partners and all Cubans can apply for visas to visit family and meet with partners in the United States.
- Organize for a definitive end to the trade embargo and travel ban on Cuba.
- Oppose any U.S. support for use of Central American or Mexican militaries for law enforcement.
**Uphold Justice, Defend the Defenders**

- Partner with Colombian human rights defenders and social leaders—among the most threatened defenders in the world—to end the slaughter of these valiant leaders.
- Support campaigns to protect Brazilian civil society leaders—Afro-descendant, indigenous, LGBTI, environmental, human rights activists—who may be at risk with the incoming Brazilian president’s frighteningly hardline approach.
- Support funding for the United Nations and other multilateral institutions to tackle corruption and support human rights in Central America, Mexico, Colombia, and elsewhere rights are under attack.
- Uplift the work of families of the disappeared in Mexico to find justice for their loved ones and hold the new government accountable to addressing torture and disappearances.
- Amplify the call to investigate and prosecute human rights violations and threats against human rights defenders in Mexico.

**Support Communities’ Economic, Land, and Environmental Rights**

- Support specific cases where environmental leaders are at risk, such as but not limited to, campaigning for justice for the murder of Honduran environmental leader Berta Cáceres and support for the indigenous alliance COPINH, and for protection for leaders of the campaign regarding Colombia’s Ituango hydroelectric dam.
- Oppose a return to aerial spraying programs in Colombia that are devastating to the environment and rural inhabitants, including Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities. Support implementation of the drug policy chapter of the peace accords to work with small farmers to sustainably replace coca production.
- Elevate calls to protect Latin America’s endangered environmental leaders, often indigenous or Afro-descendant, in civil society and congressional statements and civil society actions.